

Troodon

Common Name:

Classification:

Class: Reptilia

Order: Saurischia

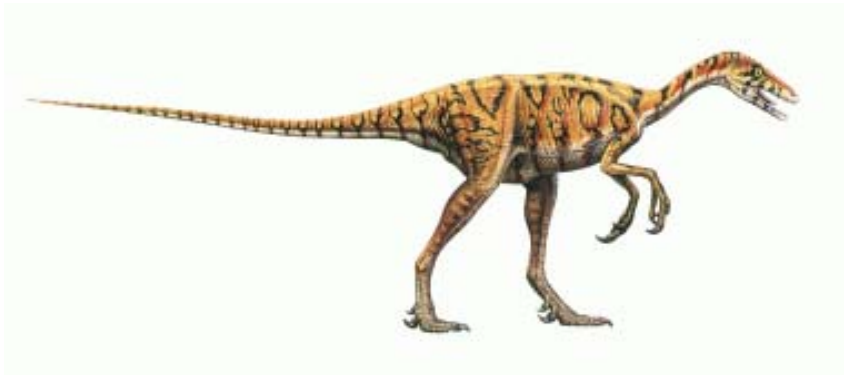
Family: Troodontidae



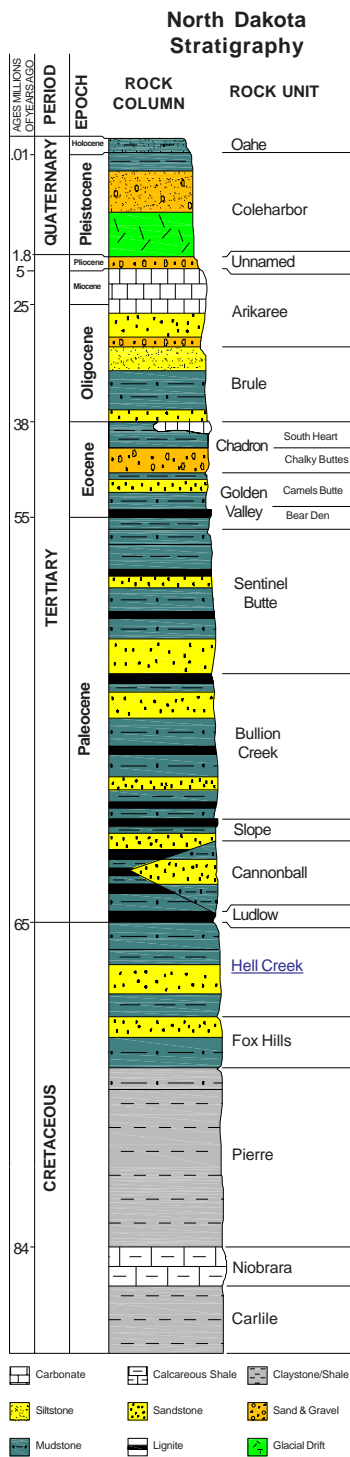
Tooth of the theropod dinosaur, *Troodon*. 4 mm high. Cretaceous [Hell Creek](#) Formation. Morton County. North Dakota State Fossil Collection.

Description:

Troodon was a small, man-sized, meat eating dinosaur. It grew to lengths of about 6 feet and only weighed about 50 pounds. It had a narrow head, large eyes, closely spaced teeth and long, slender hind limbs. Its lightly built body and slender legs suggest that it was very agile. Each foot possessed two sharp claws and it had long fingers probably used to catch small mammals and reptiles. *Troodon* had an enormous brain compared to most other dinosaurs and is believed to be one of the smartest of all dinosaurs.



Troodon. Painting by, and courtesy of, John Sibbick.



Locations where fossils have been found